



# Bruin Voices



Lake Braddock Secondary

**PTSA**

everychild.one voice.

[www.fcps.k12.va.us/LakeBraddockSS](http://www.fcps.k12.va.us/LakeBraddockSS)

[www.lbssptsa.org](http://www.lbssptsa.org)

**Back-to-School Night**

**September 25-26, 2006**

## From the President . . .

### Dear Parents and Lake Braddock Community,

Welcome back to a great year! The list below says it all about being a parent at Lake Braddock. Help your student and other young people achieve success this year. Join us! Our greatest asset is our children. Get involved with **Bruin Pride**. LBSS is a state-of-the-art school serving wonderful young people. The LBSS PTSA mission is to support and uplift parents, students, teachers and staff of this community. I challenge you as concerned parents to check out and check off this list of ways to make a difference. We appreciate your support. Please contact me if I can be of service to you this school year. Bruin Pride!

**Trenda Jacocks, President LBSS PTSA 2006-2007**

**lbptsapres@aol.com**

### Top Ten for Parent Involvement at LBSS

1. Join PTSA for only \$12-- Receive Bruin Pride magnet tonight! ([www.lbssptsa.org](http://www.lbssptsa.org))
2. Volunteer. Fill out a volunteer form online ([www.lbssptsa.org](http://www.lbssptsa.org))
3. Sign up for **Keep in Touch** and PTSA weekly e-mail ([www.lbssptsa.org](http://www.lbssptsa.org))
4. Support and join LBSS booster organizations and fundraisers.
5. Read Bruin Voices and the **Bear Facts**.
6. Know your child's teachers. Attend Back-to-School Nights.
7. Communicate with teachers and counselor. (E-mail: first name.last name.fcps.edu)
8. Attend your child's school and extracurricular activities.
9. Know other parents and families in the LB community. (Opt-in student directory form)
10. Support safe, drug-free events and environments for young people.

### PTSA Board Position Vacancies--We Need You!

Contact Trenda Jacocks, President at [lbptsapres@aol.com](mailto:lbptsapres@aol.com)

- Special Education Parent Representative
- Human Relations Representative
- Baccalaureate Class of 2007 chair

**Join PTSA and get a Bruin Pride car magnet, PTSA directory, and membership card. Membership forms are on your chair.**

### Boundary Issues on the Horizon

The school boundaries for Hayfield Secondary, Lake Braddock Secondary and South County Secondary Schools will be reviewed this school year, only two years since the last time those boundaries were set. Town meetings to discuss alternative boundary scenarios will be held on October 10 and November 1, at 7:30 p.m. at the South County Secondary School. See the weekly e-mail for more information. **We urge you to come out and make your opinions and concerns known.**

### Dates to Know

- October 9**  
School holiday
- October 10**  
Boundary meeting, South County
- October 12**  
PSAT, 9th-11th grade
- October 16**  
College Fair, Fair Oaks Mall
- October 17**  
College Night-Hayfield SS  
PTSA general membership mtg.
- October 21**  
PTSA Craft fair
- October 22**  
ACT
- October 26**  
National Merit breakfast
- October 27**  
Teacher of the Year nominations due
- October 29**  
Daylight Savings Time ends
- October 31**  
State PTA Leg. ballots due
- November 3**  
Reflections entries due
- November 4**  
First grading period ends
- November 5**  
SAT
- November 7-8**  
Student holidays

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## Get Involved----Volunteer!

Welcome to a new year at LBSS. I hope it has been a pleasant experience for you so far. I am Kathy Carson, PTSA volunteer coordinator. I will try to answer the questions I am asked most often about volunteering in the school. If you have any other questions, call me at 703/912-9041 or e-mail [lbssvolunteers@rcarson.com](mailto:lbssvolunteers@rcarson.com). I will be glad to talk to you about volunteering or anything else you need to know about Lake Braddock Secondary School. The benefits of volunteering at LBSS are many. You get to meet the staff, to know the school, and to meet many different and fun people who are also volunteers. I know I did. I look forward to volunteering with you at LBSS this year. I hope to talk to you soon!

### Where do I park, and how do I sign in?

You may park in any space with yellow lines. The numbered spaces are reserved for seniors who have paid a fee for their private use. Once you get into the school, go immediately to the main office to sign in. LBSS has a new computerized system which is very simple (I promise). Just click on the first letter of your last name and double click on your name. If it is your first time volunteering in the school, click on the button that says "add me to the list." Then follow the instructions on the screen.

### I can volunteer only 1 or 2 hours. Is that enough?

Most volunteering events at Lake Braddock require only 1 to 2 hours of your time. If they require more time, we will break them down into 2-hour shifts. Also, if you can't get there right at the times stated, just let me know; in most cases it will not be a problem.

### What kinds of volunteering opportunities are there at LBSS?

Volunteering at the middle and high school level is surprisingly similar to volunteering at the elementary school level. We need people to bake, alphabetize, answer phones, shelve books, sell tickets, chaperone dances, copy, help with health screening, pass out yearbooks, plant, help organize, interpret, mentor, tutor, etc. The only real difference is that we don't work in the classrooms. Though we need many people to do many things, we do not ask that you do all of them. If you can help out with only one event during the year, we will appreciate your time.

### My student doesn't want me to volunteer in the school. What should I do?

Many of the times you volunteer at LBSS, you won't even see your student. However, if your student doesn't want you to volunteer because you may "embarrass" him or her, you might want to try what I did. I told my children that I wouldn't talk to them if I saw them at the school. After a while, they started coming up and talking to me! Even if your students aren't all that happy to see you at the school, their friends probably will be, and the staff **definitely** will be. The staff at LBSS appreciates everything the volunteers do to help out.

### Do I really need to fill out a form?

Yes, the form is the only way I know how to contact you. After receiving the form, I enter the information into the volunteer database (otherwise known as my PC). When I receive a request for volunteers, I use a sorting program based on the volunteer form to generate a list of volunteers to call. The lists from the previous year are retired after I receive forms for the current year. If you volunteered the previous year and wish to do the same kind of jobs, fill out the contact information on the form and write across it that you want me to update your last year's form - there is a button you can check on the online form for this purpose - or just call me or drop me an e-mail to let me know. I want to make volunteering easy for everyone.

### What does the volunteer coordinator do?

I collect information from volunteer forms, receive requests from the school for volunteers, see who has signed up to help, let them know when and where to go, and let the staff know who is coming. And yes, I do this for the whole school, both middle and high school.

## Who Mentored You?

Thank him or her . . . and pass it on! Think back to when you were growing up, and often times you remember someone special that took time from his or her busy life to make you feel good about yourself. Now it's time for you to be that someone special. **MentorWorks** gives you that opportunity. There are lots of teens at LB who just need someone extra in their life to help them find focus or someone to talk to that is not parent or teacher. Your only commitment is to meet once a week with the student throughout the school year. If you are interested or have questions, contact Robyn Trump at 703/913-6177 or [ctrump2@verizon.net](mailto:ctrump2@verizon.net). Our first training session will be sometime in October.



## After-School Tutoring Needs Adult and Student Volunteers

Are you willing to help 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders improve their academic performance? You have an opportunity to tutor subjects like math, English, social studies, science and languages by signing up to volunteer for the PTSA After-School Program tutoring service. We are looking for **adults** and **upperclass students** who can commit at least one hour a week to meet after school with students in specified locations at LBSS on late bus days, Mondays, Wednesdays, or Thursdays. Other days can be arranged as long as students and tutors have arranged for transportation home. Student volunteers can receive community service hours or fulfill other class volunteer requirements. Both adults and students will have ongoing support of the After-School program staff coordinator Taylor Dixon and the PTSA coordinator, Bev Magida. Contact Bev at 703/ 821-3055 or [bev.magida@verizon.net](mailto:bev.magida@verizon.net) if you are interested in volunteering. Contact Taylor Dixon at 703/426 -1134 or [Taylor.Dixon@fcps.edu](mailto:Taylor.Dixon@fcps.edu) if you have a student interested in receiving tutoring.

## Ask the Vice President

If you have a question about LBSS, whether middle or high school-related, one of your PTSA vice presidents will try to find an answer for you.

### How does my student buy lunch at Lake Braddock? There aren't any lunch cards.

Patricia Fausser, 2nd Vice President, Middle School answers ([p.fausser@att.net](mailto:p.fausser@att.net))

Where have all the lunch cards gone? Welcome to middle school at Lake Braddock! Among the many things that are different than at an elementary school is lunch. By now your student has had a chance to see the beautiful new cafeteria – all decked out in purple and gold. Along with a different cafeteria is a different way of buying lunch, but really it is pretty much the same – just no cards.

I'm sure you can imagine how impossible it would be to maintain lunch cards for approximately 3,800 students. The lunch account system at Lake Braddock is keyed to the six-digit student identification number that can be found on most school-to-home correspondence, such as a report card or the class schedule your student received on the first day. When students go through the lunch line, they enter their six-digit number on a keypad at the cashier. Parents are asked to emphasize to students that their identification numbers should be kept confidential and not shared with friends.

All rising 7th grade students who attended elementary school in Fairfax County and had a lunch account automatically have that account balance transferred to their new middle school. There are three ways to purchase meals: online payments, check, or cash.

### MyLunchMoney.com



The service is easy-to-use, convenient, private and secure. There is a convenience fee. Once an account is established, parents can check the funds in the account any time from a home computer or by phone. Parents can choose an automatic reload option so that the account never runs out of money.

To pay by check, make the check payable to **LBSS Food and Nutrition Services**, include the student identification number on the check along with the child's name, and give the check to any cashier in the cafeteria. A detailed printout of student purchases is available upon request from the cafeteria manager's office.

Any balances in the lunch account from the previous year remain and are carried over to the next year. If there are funds remaining in the account when your child graduates or leaves Lake Braddock, you may request a refund from the Food and Nutrition Services office at 703/813-4800.

## Do You Receive the Lake Braddock PTSA Weekly News Update?

On Sunday evenings, more than 1,000 Lake Braddock SS families receive weekly e-mail updates and breaking news of interest to Lake Braddock students, parents, and the greater Lake Braddock community. This is a free service provided through the PTSA. If you would like to be added to the list of those "in the know," go to the PTSA website [www.lbssptsa.org](http://www.lbssptsa.org) and find the red box **Stay Informed with our PTSA E-Mail List!** Enter your e-mail address to begin receiving your updates. While at the website, check out the many activities of PTSA. To learn more about Lake Braddock Secondary School, go to the school website at [www.fcps.edu/LakeBraddockSS](http://www.fcps.edu/LakeBraddockSS), where you can see a calendar of events for the school year, visit the Career Center webpage, learn about renovations, find out SOL requirements, discover links to the Fairfax County Public Schools system, etc.

## Thank-You to 2006 All Night Grad Party Supporters!

*Thank  
you*

The Lake Braddock Senior class of 2006 and their families thank the following businesses, organizations and individuals for their support of the All Night Drug and Alcohol Free Graduation Celebration on June 20. We are grateful for their generous contributions and commitment to the young people of our community. Please support and thank those who support Lake Braddock!

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